



## **BiG iDEA SMALL GROUP DiSCUSSiON GiDE**

Small groups that focus on the Big Idea for the week can use this guide to apply the message to life and take action. Feel free to use whatever parts of this guide best fit your group personality and time frame. Do NOT feel like you have to use every question. All verses, unless otherwise noted, are from the New International Version (NIV).

### **7.18/19.09 // WHY-FI – Questions About Women's Leadership**

#### **BiG iDEA:**

**Serve and lead where you are, with what God's given you to meet needs and make a difference for Jesus.**

#### **// Ice Breaker \_\_\_\_\_**

**Option 1: Who is your favorite woman character in the Bible? What makes her your favorite?**

**Option 2: Can you think of someone who has (or had) great influence and power but did not have an official leadership position? Why did they have that influence and power?**

#### **// Questions for Discussion \_\_\_\_\_**

##### **1. Read John 4:27**

At this point His disciples came, and they were amazed that He [Jesus] had been speaking with a woman...

**How were women regarded in Jesus' time?**

**What would it be like to live as a woman then?**

##### **2. Read Matthew 26:6-12**

<sup>6</sup>While Jesus was in Bethany in the home of a man known as Simon the Leper, <sup>7</sup>a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, which she poured on his head as he was reclining at the table.

<sup>8</sup>When the disciples saw this, they were indignant. "Why this waste?" they asked. <sup>9</sup>"This perfume could have been sold at a high price and the money given to the poor."

<sup>10</sup>Aware of this, Jesus said to them, "Why are you bothering this woman? She has done a beautiful thing to me. <sup>11</sup>The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me.

<sup>12</sup>When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial. <sup>13</sup>I tell you the truth, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her."

**How does Jesus regard women?**

**How does that make you feel?**

**3. Read Hebrews 12: 14 – 15**

Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

**Women in leadership is a complex and controversial subject. Godly people honestly disagree.**

**What should our attitude be towards those that disagree with us?**

**What are some practical ways to help us do this?**

**4. Read Acts 2: 17 – 18**

In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

**Do you think God sees women as less important in the Church? Why or why not?**

**5. Read 1 Timothy 2: 11 – 15**

A woman must quietly receive instruction with entire submissiveness. But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet. For it was Adam who was first created, and then Eve. And it was not Adam who was deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.

**Southpoint uses the Bible for our authority. Some churches are more influenced by culture. What could be some concerns with culture influencing church direction?**

**6. How important are women in leadership at Southpoint?**

**What do you think Southpoint would be like without them?**

**7. Read 1 Corinthians 12: 4-6**

<sup>4</sup>There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. <sup>5</sup>There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. <sup>6</sup>There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men.

**God gives everyone different gifts. What are our responsibilities in developing and using our gifts?**

**What would be some practical ways to develop and use our gifts?**

**8. Read: Mark 10:45**

<sup>45</sup>"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

**What should our attitude be in doing the work of Christ?**

**Do you find this challenging?**

**What helps you have the right attitude?**

## // Application \_\_\_\_\_

### **Read and commit to memory 1 Peter 4:10**

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

**Thank a woman in leadership at Southpoint for all she does. Remember, leadership doesn't mean an official title. Leadership is setting an example, and influencing others for God.**

## // Prayer \_\_\_\_\_

**Pray that we will use and develop our gifts that God has given us.  
Pray that we will have an attitude that honors God as we do His work.**